

HUGE PROFITS IN U. S. INDUSTRIES

Startling Facts Revealed by Treasury Department.

WORST IS IN FOODSTUFFS

Profiteering by Producers of Common Necessities, Bad Enough in 1916, Was Enormously Increased in 1917 in Most Instances.

Washington, Aug. 17.—Amazing profits in almost every branch of American industry were brought to light when the treasury department completed its long-awaited report on profiteering.

The report covers 31,500 corporations, the names of which are withheld. It was prepared in response to the Borah resolution, adopted by the senate after President Wilson, in his revenue address to congress on May 27, declared that there was "abundant fuel for the light" in the treasury department with regard to profiteering.

The treasury department takes the position that it would be a violation of existing law to make public the names of corporations and their earnings. The senate resolution is not sufficient to suspend the law; it would require a joint resolution, the treasury department holds.

The most extraordinary profiteering revealed by the report was in foodstuffs. Producers of nearly all the common necessities of life were shown to have made enormously increased profits in 1917 over 1916, although their earnings in 1916 were in numerous cases far above the 100 per cent mark.

Meat packers' profits were shown to have increased substantially. One large packer made \$19,000,000 more in 1917 than in 1916.

In the iron and steel industry sensational profits were disclosed. In coal and oil profits mounted to unparalleled figures. Public utilities of virtually every character also came in for a liberal share of the increased prosperity.

Large Profits of Dairies.
Among the dairy concerns large increases of profits were shown. One company with \$600,000 capital made \$188,000 in 1917, against \$25,000 the year before. The small dairymen made the largest percentages of increased profits. One little concern with a capital of \$2,400 made \$11,038, as compared with \$4,000 for 1916.

Fruit and vegetable growing industries' profits increased considerably over those for 1916, although they were fairly large for that year. One concern's profits were 240 per cent above for 1917 than for 1916. Concerns with small capital showed the largest increases.

Wheat, corn and barley growing was not so profitable, according to the returns. One concern with \$425,000 capital lost money.

Stock breeding showed substantially increased profit in nearly all the concerns listed. The industry also showed large profits for the previous year. One concern's profits were 253 per cent more in 1917 than in 1916.

A large number of industries listed as "miscellaneous agricultural industries" showed some strikingly large profits, beginning in 1916 and increasing rapidly in 1917.

Food Men Gain Riches.
Of 216 concerns listed under the caption "Bread and other baking products," profiteering of an amazing character was shown. For example, one company capitalized at \$40,000 increased its profits from \$50,000 in 1916 to \$107,000 in 1917. Few of them showed increases of less than 20 per cent on their capital stock.

In the canning industry one company which earned 377 per cent in 1916 earned 1,047 per cent in 1917. Another, capitalized at \$98,000, made \$947,000 in 1917, against \$98,000 in 1916. A \$50,000 concern which made \$25,000 in 1916 made \$142,000 in 1917.

The manufacture of syrups, molasses and glucose netted much increased profit. One company with \$350,000 capital earned \$363,000 in 1917 against \$178,000 in 1916. Ice cream was an especially big money maker.

Of more than 500 flour, feed and grain mills listed only a few failed to show largely increased profits. One \$2,800,000 concern made \$752,000 in 1916 and \$1,200,000 in 1917.

There was a general upward rise in meat packing companies' profits. The largest concern listed had a capital of \$100,000,000, upon which it earned \$40,000,000 in 1917, against \$30,000,000 in 1916.

Startling Profits in Leather.
Leather manufacturers, including the dealers in hides, and makers of boots and shoes and trunks and valises, made profits in 1916 and 1917 that are startling. One shoe manufacturing concern, with \$1,000,000 capital, made \$12 per cent in 1916, but no excess in 1917.

Scores of boot and shoe manufacturing concerns, whose capital was from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000, made all the way from 20 to more than 1,000 per cent in 1916.

The profits of the brewers ranged from 25 to 175 per cent in 1916, and their excess profits in 1917 were from 5 to 50 per cent, most of the large breweries making an average profit of 42 to 50 per cent in 1916, and an excess profit of 10 per cent in 1917.

The distillers of whiskies and spirits made profits in 1916 that ranged from 9 to 823 per cent, while their ex-

cess profits last year were from 12 to 400 per cent.

Coal Men Pile Up Wealth.
The Pennsylvania and West Virginia soft coal mining companies made enormous excess profits in 1917, according to the report. The large companies all made profits in 1916 ranging from 25 to 150 per cent.

In 1917 all of the large bituminous operators, the report shows, made unusual profits. One mine made 1,633 per cent on its capital in 1916 and 4,337 per cent in 1917. Another made 1,872 per cent in 1916 and 5,983 per cent in 1917.

Profits of the midcontinent bituminous operators were smaller, averaging 50 per cent.

The big oil producing companies of Illinois, Indiana, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia made from 23 to 306 per cent in 1916 and enormous excess profits in 1917. The Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas oil companies showed similar profits for both years.

All of the garment manufacturers made gigantic profits in 1916, those for the larger companies ranging from 25 to 75 per cent that year. They showed excess profits in 1917 of from 5 to 35 per cent.

Small dealers in flour and grain, with capital stock of from \$1,000 to \$5,000, made excess profits that ranged as high as 519 per cent.

The report also shows that the small dealers in furniture and other household goods made enormous profits last year, with excess profits as high as 350 per cent.

Retail dealers in tobacco made enormous profits off the smokers of the country, the highest being 3176 per cent, and the average approximately 80 per cent in 1916. These profits were doubled during 1917.

Auto Builders Wax Fat.

Most of the automobile companies hit high marks in earnings in 1916, but they went still higher in 1917. The largest listed, however, did not show any extraordinary increase in profits over those of 1916. One company with \$31,000,000 capital in 1916 earned \$17,000,000, then boosted its capital stock to \$96,000,000 and then earned \$23,000,000. A \$19,000,000 concern which earned \$4,608,000 in 1916 made \$5,258,000 in 1917. A \$16,000,000 company made \$4,713,000 in 1917, against \$4,109,000 in 1916.

A tin plate mill with \$40,000,000 capital made \$54,000,000 set profit in 1917, against \$19,000,000 in 1916, or an increase of 12 per cent on its capital stock.

Transportation, public utilities, and light and power companies, with very few exceptions, fared exceedingly well during 1916 and 1917. Their profits in 1916 generally ranged from 6 to 80 per cent on their capital stock, while they nearly all made excess profits in 1917 of from 8 to 35 per cent. Profits of the large public utilities companies in 1916 and 1917 ranged from 11 to 25 per cent.

Steam and electric railroads in 1916 made from 17 to 207 per cent profits, while in 1917 they made profits in excess of 1916 that ranged between 15 and 20 per cent, according to the report.

Marine, fire, and life insurance concerns enjoyed unusually large increases in profits. One company earned 498 per cent more on its capital stock in 1917 than in 1916. Another capitalized at \$700,000 increased its income from \$324,000 in 1916 to \$3,778,000 in 1917.

How Dry Goods Men Fared.
A list of 2,092 clothing and dry goods merchants, including department stores, showed profits for 1917 in excess of those over 1916, as high as 191.43 per cent on the capital stock. The concerns making the enormous profits, however, were the smaller firms.

Retail grocers and provision brokers made their enormous "war profits" in 1916, the report shows. The grocers made only a small profit in 1917 in excess of their 1916 profits. Of the 1,633 concerns listed in the report, however, only a dozen show profits of less than 20 per cent on their capital stock in 1916, the year before the United States entered the war, and the profits of some concerns that year were as high as 1,813 per cent. Most of the grocers, both large and small concerns, the report shows, made average profits in 1916 of from 50 to 200 per cent.

London Police Quick to Act.
The smartness of the London police is commented upon in the description of an attempted suicide from Waterloo bridge, "The Bridge of Sighs." A man jumped on the parapet, leaped into the air, made a couple of loops and splashed into the Thames. Inside of a minute the police had picked him up with a motorboat and dispatched an officer to recover his hat and stick from the bridge. He was duly charged next morning and remanded for an inquiry as to his sanity.

Worth the Money.
Corporal Frank Brunson of Omaha, Neb., a member of the 24th balloon company stationed at Camp Morrison, Va., 1,000 miles away, wanted to see his new daughter who had just arrived. Leave was granted but these were the instructions he had to follow on the way home: "Wire headquarters at every stop." Brunson said it was considerable trouble, but it was worth it to see "daddy's baby girl."

John Made an Error, Looks Like.
"They also serve who only stand and wait,"—Milton.

Maybe you're right, John; maybe you're not; but they're not hanging up any service flags for the standers and waiters.

Patriots Over Here



BIG GUNS COMMAND VALLEY OF THE OISE

FRENCH LEADER'S BRILLIANT LOCAL THRUSTS WREST GROUND FROM THE ENEMY.

FRENCH TAKE 2,200 GERMANS

Latest Success Gives Gen. Mangin's Forces Command of the Valley of Oise As Far As Mont Renaud. Many Prisoners Taken.

With the French Army in France.—In brilliant local operations carried out by Gen. Mangin's troops, from the Oise river near Ribecourt southeastward to Morain, northwest of Soissons, important positions were wrested from the Germans, who left 2,200 prisoners in the hands of the French.

Gen. Mangin's forces advanced three miles at the greatest depth of the front.

The first German line of defense was crossed over nearly the whole front though the resistance was most vigorous at many places.

Gen. Mangin holds the line running from Morain along the southern edge of the ravine of Audincourt to Fosse heights, dominating the plain of Carlepont, and thence on to Pimrez, across the Oise. This success gives the French command of the valley of the Oise as far as Mont Renaud.

With these routes commanded by Gen. Mangin's artillery, the only free route for exit from the region of Noyon and Laon is the narrow gauge line running north to Ham by way of Guiscard, and the high road running in the same direction.

Unless the German general, Von Hutier, is able to stop Mangin's advance he will have only this narrow outlet for his troops and material, as the triangle between the Noyon-Chauny road and the road from Noyon to Guiscard, while a good position for defense, is not favorable for an intense movement of troops and transport.

The Germans consequently are fighting desperately to hold the present lines, while seeking a chance to shake off the grip of the allies, break contact with them and slip away. The result of operations, while not spectacular, were entirely satisfactory, the French overcoming the resistance of the Germans in the region of Laon and pressing on toward Plessier.

GERMANS GIVING GROUND

The German Troops Seem to Have Lost Greatly in Fighting Efficiency.

With the British Army in France.—In response to pressure applied first at one and then another part of the line, the Germans opposite the British on several portions of the front continue to give ground. The German troops which have been encountered in the past few days, especially during the operations in which Outtersteen ridge was captured and consolidated, seem to have lost greatly in fighting efficiency. Of nearly 700 Germans captured during the Outtersteen operation, many surrendered tamely, after securing their rations and personal belongings.

There are indications that the Germans also are giving way in parts of the Merriville sector. On the new Somme front the Germans overlook no opportunity to fight rear actions. They appear ready to retire, but apparently want to be pushed a little because in the pushing operations they may be offered an opportunity to get in their deadly work with machine guns.

Dry Dock At New Orleans.
New Orleans.—At the local offices of the United States shipping board of the emergency fleet corporation, it is said that a 10,000-ton dry dock and a large ship repair plant will be constructed at New Orleans. Work on the dock and plant will begin immediately, and it is expected to have them in operation by the first of next year. The plant and dock will cost about \$1,250,000 and will be sufficiently large to accommodate the largest steamships that enter this port, the announcement says.

SHORTEN BATTLE FRONT FIFTY MILES

ALLIES MAINTAIN POSSESSION OF INITIATIVE BY MAKING LIMITED ATTACKS.

THE TANKS DO GREAT WORK

British Make Steady Progress Forward, Capturing Villages, Taking Prisoners and Guns From Surprised Army.

Washington.—Allied successes on the Marne, in Picardy and in Flanders in recent operations have resulted in a contraction of the western battle front by more than 50 miles. General March, chief of staff, announced. The allies in engagements conducted the past week, he added, have maintained their possession of the initiative by making attacks on limited fronts and at widely separated points.

At the beginning of the German offensive in March the battle front in France measured 250 miles. Now it is less than 200 miles in length and the latest British gains are reducing it further. General March said he was without official confirmation of the results of the British advance to the north of the Scarpe.

British Make Steady Progress.
With the British Army in France.—Having smashed into Gen. von Below's Seventeenth army during a heavy fog on a front of more than 10 miles, extending from the Aisne River to Moyenneville, the British have made steady progress forward, capturing villages, taking prisoners and guns and inflicting heavy casualties on the surprised army.

Coming directly on the heels of the battle south of the Somme, the scene of which virtually adjoins the field of the new operations, this blow exploits to the limit the confusion created among the German forces by their recent defeats.

Heavy fighting has occurred along the embankment of the Albert-Arras railroad, which seemed to have been easily reached by the storming British infantrymen, who were assisted in this task by tanks.

SNIPED SIX GERMANS.
American Corporal in Front Trench Makes New Record.

With the American Army in France.—A corporal in an American front line regiment, to which he was assigned as a sniper, has made a record by accounting for six men within three days. Among them was a German sniper who had given the Americans much trouble. The corporal brought him down by daringly crawling out toward a tree in which he was located.

Three of the other Germans killed by the corporal were picked off as they incautiously showed themselves at a trench junction 500 yards from where he was stationed.

JUMPS FROM AN AIRPLANE.

Ship Caught Fire and Johnson Leaps Out to His Death.

Belleville, Ill.—Allan B. Johnson of Fort Alleghany, Pa., was killed at Scott Field, near here, when an airplane in which he was flying 3,000 feet from the ground, caught fire and fell to the earth.

Johnson, who was 26 years of age, had gone up in the machine alone. Officers at the field attributed the accident to a leak in the oil tank, oil having dripped on the exhaust pipe. When the machine caught fire Johnson unstrapped himself from the plane and jumped. His body was mangled beyond recognition.

Prisoners' Conference Put Off.
Paris.—At the request of the German government the German-American conference regarding war prisoners has been postponed, according to a Geneva dispatch published in the Echo de Paris.

Seven Burned in Home.
Binghamton, N. Y.—The charred bodies of Philip Roth, his wife and five children were found in the ruins of their home, 12 miles east of Williamsport, Tioga county. The house had been burned during the night.

THE ALLIES CAPTURE TO HALT INVASION OF 100,000 IN 6 WEEKS GERMAN PRISONERS

DAMAGE SIX GERMAN ARMIES SINCE JULY 15—BRITISH EATING INTO SEVENTH.

DESIGNS OF FOCH UNKNOWN

Believed Generally That Foch's Aim Is to Strike Blows Causing Enemy Irreparable Losses in Men and Material.

Paris.—The allied armies have taken more than 100,000 prisoners since July 15, says Marcel Hutin in the Echo de Paris.

The allies have damaged six German armies since July 15 and the British are now eating into the seventh with the spread of the battle northward and over a front of 70 miles.

Whether the enemy is prepared or unprepared, allied efforts have had the same results and the Germans have been outgeneraled and outfought. The past six weeks have been those of Gen. von Eben, von Hutler and von Boehn, von Eben, von Hutler and von der Marwitz.

The full designs of Marshal Foch are known only to himself and perhaps one or two others, but it is believed generally that his aim is not, as the Germans claim, to pierce their line, but to strike a succession of blows to cause the enemy irreparable losses in men and material and to force him to make more or less disastrous retreats.

If that be the marshal's plan, he is pursuing it with skill and unvarying success. Gen. Ludendorff is being forced to expend his resources out of all proportion to his resources on a given sector of the front, after which another blow is struck home on another sector. At no place have the Germans apparently been strong enough to check the attack entirely.

NEWSPAPER IS HALTED.
May Not Publish Daily Without War Board's Authority.

Helena, Mont.—The Butte Weekly Bulletin has been advised by the pulp and paper division of the war industries board that it can not proceed with its plans for the publication of a daily newspaper in Butte without authority of the war industries board.

The Montana council of defense issued an order Aug. 12 prohibiting the establishment in Montana of new papers or the conversion of weeklies or monthlies into dailies during the war.

The Butte Bulletin announced it would pay no attention to the order of the state council, which took the matter up with the pulp and paper division of the war industries board.

SEND DOWN 21 AIRPLANES.
Fifteen and a Half Tons of Explosives Dropped by British Flyers.

London.—Twenty-one German air planes were brought down by British flyers August 20 and four balloons were sent down in flames, the war office communique on aviation states. Seven British machines are missing. Fifteen and a half tons of bombs were dropped by British bombing planes on various German targets, including the docks at Bruges and an aerodrome at Phalempin.

REAP CROPS UNDER FIRE.
Italians Harvest Grain While Austrian Guns Roar.

Washington.—Italian soldiers and civilians have succeeded in harvesting the grain on the right bank of the Piave River under fire of the enemy, according to official reports received from Rome. The entire district was swept, while the harvesters worked, by the enemy's artillery.

\$40,000 INDEMNITY BILL.
Senate Passes Measure to Recoup Greek Sufferers in Omaha Riots.

Washington.—A senate bill providing \$40,000 to indemnify Greece, as requested by President Wilson in a recent message to congress, for damages suffered by Greeks in South Omaha, Neb., riots in 1909, was passed by the House and now goes to the president.

Give Salvation Army \$100,000.
New York.—In recognition of the assistance rendered the wounded in France by the workers of the Salvation Army on duty there, the United States Steel Corporation sent \$100,000 to the Army's war work committee. Accompanying the donation was a letter of congratulation to Commander Evangeline Booth from Elbert H. Gary, chairman of the steel corporation.

More Than 30 Are Killed.
Tyler, Minn.—Between 30 and 35 persons were killed and more than 100 were injured by the tornado which struck Tyler and tore the town to pieces in a twinkling.

The tornado tore through the heart of the town, sparing only one building, a motion picture theater, in which 200 persons were sheltered. The greatest loss of life was in a restaurant. Eighteen persons were in the place when the brick walls collapsed. Sixteen were killed and two other two were seriously injured.

CHINESE GOVERNMENT SENDS TROOPS TO SIBERIAN BORDER TO PROTECT PROPERTY.

1,450,000 MEN OVERSEAS

Gen. Peyton C. March Announces the Number of Men Now Overseas and Under Arms in the United States.

Washington.—The Chinese government has sent a large force of troops to the Siberian border to prevent a threatened invasion of Chinese territory by German and Hungarian prisoners of war who joined with the Bolsheviks against the Czech-Slovaks in the Trans-Baikal region.

The sending of the Chinese forces was taken to mean that every means of extending relief to the Czech-Slovaks. The active participation of the Chinese army on the Siberian border may have an important bearing on developments there within a few days, according to officials here.

Vladivostok.—A second transport carrying American troops arrived at Vladivostok. The transport bearing the first contingent of American soldiers entered the harbor after a voyage of seven days from Manila.

1,450,000 Men Are Overseas.
Washington.—Gen. Peyton C. March, chief of staff, at his conference with members of the Senate military affairs committee, announced that the United States had 1,450,000 men under arms overseas and 1,550,000 under arms in camps in the United States.

Eighty American divisions of 45,000 men each, Gen. March told the house military committee, "should be able to bring the war to a successful conclusion in 1919." That is the number the war department plans to have in France by next June 30.

Casualties in the United States overseas forces, announced by the war and navy departments during the week ending August 18, numbered 1,555, compared with 4,916 for the previous week. Total casualties announced to date number 21,467, including 376 in army list. The total army casualties number 18,707; marine corps, 2,760.

TAKE 60 WITHOUT A SHOT.
Prussian Machine Gunners Were Anxious to Quit—They Were the Last of a Company.

With the American Army on the Vesle Front.—Sixty Prussians were taken prisoner by the Americans near Fismette, north of Fismes, without either side firing a shot. The Prussians were machine gunners and all that remained of a company which had been in line less than a month.

The location of the machine gun positions having been reported by a prisoner, American detachments were sent out, and, according to the Americans, the Prussians were waiting to be taken prisoner. The intelligence officer who questioned the Prussians asserted that they nearly all had agreed to surrender if the slightest opportunity arose.

The Americans who took the prisoners do not claim any credit for the capture, declaring that the Prussians virtually deserted their posts.

A German prisoner told an intelligence officer he believed that if the battle line recedes to Germany proper, the fighting spirit of the German soldiers will be greatly stimulated.

BOMB ZEEBRUGGE AGAIN.
The British Also Drop Explosives On the Docks At Ostend.

London.—Concentrating their efforts on Zeebrugge, the German submarine base in Belgium, British aviators, working with the navy, dropped 40 tons of bombs on enemy positions during the period from Aug. 8. In addition to operations against Zeebrugge bombs were also dropped on the Ostend docks and the aerodrome at Varsseke, where fires were observed.

WILL INCREASE WAGES.
New Orleans Street Railway to Increase Wages 7 1/2 Per Cent.

New Orleans.—Directors of the New Orleans Railway & Light Company decided to pay employees of the company the increase of approximately 7 1/2 per cent awarded by the war labor board. The increase, effective as of July 1, means a total of \$275,000 to be distributed among the employees.

Convicted of Espionage.
Madison, Wis.—Louis E. Nagler, former assistant secretary of state, was sentenced to 30 months in the penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth in federal court here. Nagler had been convicted for violating the espionage act.

Two Submarines Are Sunk.
Brest, France.—Two German submarines have just been sunk by American and French naval patrols. This news was communicated to President Poincare while he was visiting the docks here.